

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 as originally filed with the enclosed replacement drawing of Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Applicants Response to Examiner's Comments

Drawings

Please note the enclosed replacement drawing sheets for Figures 7, 8, 9, and 10.

5 Examiner objects to the drawings in holding that Figs. 7-10 should have textual labels that supplement numeric labels for clarity. Examiner recites that corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Examiner further notes that (a.) any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the
10 sheet, even if only one figure is being amended, (b.) the figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended", and that (c.) if a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Examiner advises that additional replacement
15 sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). Applicant understands that if the changes are not accepted by the Examiner, the Applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action and that the objection to the drawings
20 will not be held in abeyance.

The enclosed four sheets of replacement drawings are submitted as amendments to, and to replace, Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 as originally filed. Each sheet is marked as "REPLACEMENT SHEET" in the upper margin.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Drawings as currently amended with the enclosed
25 replacement Drawings are in full compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) satisfy the Examiner's objections and concerns

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Examiner states that the term "substantively" is not defined by the claims, and that the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of

ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. Examiner holds that specification is vague as to what “substantively” means.

Examiner notes that starting on pg. 7 of the specification, the use of “substantively compliance” is used to indicate compatibility with USB. Examiner acknowledges the USB specification can be very detailed. Examiner holds that, by using the term “substantively”, the claims do not indicate which part and intricacies of the USB specification the instant application encompass and which parts it does not. Examiner has determined to interpret the claims to mean the invention is compatible with all generic USB interfaces.

Applicant notes that the limitation “substantively” has been deleted from the Claims as newly amended, and that the Examiner’s claims rejections on the basis of 35 U.S.C. 112 are thereby mute. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-23 as newly amended are allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Examiner rejects Claims 1-21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 6,725,302 to Benayoun Ct al. (Benayoun).

Examiner states, regarding claims 1, 9, 17, 20 and 21, that Benayoun “discloses a system and method (Figs. 5 and 4) for providing wireless communications between a first electronic device (host computer 16) and a second electronic device (video camera 40), the first electronic device generating an output signal substantively in compliance with a first format (Column 5, lines 15+, host computer 16 controls video camera; Column 3, lines 50, all devices use USB format, thus host computer outputs to wireless hub 10 using USB standard), the output signal provided via an output signal channel of the first electronic device (host USB port outputs signal in USB format), and the second electronic device configured to enable a standard communications interface with an electronic device (video camera 40 attached via USB), the system/method comprising: a first module (Fig. 5, element 10, USB wireless hub) and a second module (Fig. 5, element 12, USB wireless hub), the first module configured for communicative coupling with the first electronic device and the second module configured for communicative coupling with the second electronic device (evident from Fig. 5, host attached to USB hub 10 and video camera attached it its own USB hub 12); the first module having a first connector and a transmitter (Fig. 4 shows modules, element 18 and 24 are USB port, inherently they are physically attached with connectors; Fig. 4, element 50 and 52 are wireless transceivers), the first

connector configured to communicatively couple with the output signal channel of the first device (Fig. 5 shows host connected to the hub via the upstream/downstream ports shown in Fig. 4, element 18 and 24), and the first connector communicatively coupled with the transmitter (Fig. 4, what is sent in the upstream port is converted through functions block in the figure and ultimately sent over the transmitter, element 52, wherein the output signal is broadcast via the transmitter as a wireless communication (Fig. 4, element 31 is antenna that broadcasts data); the second module having a conforming connector (Fig. 4 shows the hub, e.g., the module, which is attached to the video camera 40, port 24 attaches to the camera over USB), a signal format converter circuit (Column 4, lines 47-55, receiving blocks shown in Fig. 4, elements 50 and 52 converts radio signals into digital data signals), and a wireless receiver (Fig. 4, element 50), wherein the conforming connector (elements 18 and 24) is configured to conform with the communications standard (USB) and is communicatively linked with the second electronics device (Fig. 5, element 42 is attached to element 40); the wireless receiver communicatively coupled with the converter circuit (Fig. 4, element 50 is part of the converter circuit; Column 4, lines 50-55, and the wireless receiver for receiving the wireless transmission and providing the wireless transmission to the converter circuit; and the converter circuit having a translation element, the translation element configured to accept the wireless transmission from the wireless receiver and to generate a substantively compliant signal by translating the wireless transmission from the first format into the substantively compliant signal in substantive compliance with the communications standard, and the converter circuit communicatively coupled with the conforming connector, wherein the substantively compliant signal is provided to the second electronic device (Fig. 4 shows the adapter that converts wireless signals received via the antenna 32 to USB signals to be transmitted/received over port/connector elements 18 and 24).”

Applicant respectfully replies that the signal format converter circuit of the present invention is not found in Benayoun as Benayoun employs and teaches only of employing, communications hubs rather than single data channel signal format converters. As is well known in the art, communications hubs function by multiplexing and demultiplexing electronic signals. The means and method employed and disclosed by Benayoun are therefore distinct from the present invention.

Applicant agrees that Benayoun enables a communications channel between a plurality of devices. Benayoun teaches exclusively of organizing a serial bus in communication with two or

more wireless communications hubs (see lines 45-67, col. 2, Figures 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, Claims 1, 11, 15). Wireless communications hubs must, by definition, include multiplexing circuitry that increases the cost and size of the hub. In addition, the complexity of multiplexing and demultiplexing operations on the signals managed by a hub increase the complexity of the maintenance of the communications channels

In contrast, the present invention employs a dedicated circuit that receives, reformats and provides information to an electronic device, where the information was generated by a specific pre-selected source. (See element 722, FIG. 7, paragraph 0058; element 928, FIG. 9, paragraph 0061, elements 201 and 213, FIG. FIG. 2, paragraphs 0048 and 0049; element 1006, FIG. 10, paragraph 0062; and element 639, FIG. 6, paragraph 0057).

Examiner further holds that the adapter shown in Fig. 4 of Benayoun inherently has a buffer memory due to the clearly different communication types/rates over a USE and a wireless protocol, and that differences in communication types/rates are by definition, why buffers are used.

Applicant concurs that hubs employ and include buffers.

Examiner also maintains, regarding claims 2-5, 10-13, 17 and 18, that Benayoun discloses claims 1 and 9, and further discloses the first format being a serial digital format (e.g., USB is a serial format), a video format (i.e., Fig. 5, element 40 is a video camera) or audio format (i.e., a hub is adaptable to any USB adaptor device, e.g., microphone, or camera with microphone, etc.), while noting that video formats are predominantly mpeg/jpeg.

Applicant replies that the method of the present invention does not employ a hub, but rather inventively provides dedicated, albeit with reprogrammable circuitry in certain preferred embodiments, circuitry that enables a communications reformatting without the need and burden of a hub, nor requiring multiplexing and demultiplexing in the communications reformatting process.

Applicant respectfully notes that the present invention is distinct from the Benayoun by using dedicate channel employing simpler, less expensive, and lighter weight components than required by a hub, to reformat signals and deliver the reformatted signal to A selected electronic device.

Applicant respectfully submits that the independent Claim 17 is therefore allowable, and that the dependent Claims 2-5, 10-13 and 18 depend from allowable independent Claims, e.g., 1, 9, or 17, are therefore allowable.

5 Examiner states, regarding claims 6 and 14, that Benayoun discloses claims 1 and 9, wherein the transmitters are transceivers (Fig. 4, elements 50 and 52), whereby first and second modules enable bidirectional communications between the first and second electronic device (Fig. 4, elements 18 and 24).

10 Applicant concurs that the prior art includes the use of wireless transceivers. Applicant refers to the arguments above regarding the patentable distinctions between the method of the present invention and Benayoun's requirement for a hub. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the independent that the dependent Claims 6 and 14 depend from allowable independent Claims, i.e., 1 and 9 respectively, and are therefore allowable.

15 Examiner maintains, regarding claims 7, 8, 15, 16 and 19, that Benayoun discloses claims 6, 9 and 17, wherein the transceivers are wireless standards based (Column 4, lines 1 5-20). Examiner asserts that Benayoun specifically discloses an embodiment that says 2.4GHz which Bluetooth and WiFi (802.11) uses.

20 Applicant concurs that the prior art includes the use of wireless standards. Applicant refers to the arguments above regarding the patentable distinctions between the method of the present invention and Benayoun's requirement for a hub. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the independent that the dependent Claims 7, 8, 15, 16 and 19 depend from allowable independent Claims, e.g., 1 or 9 respectively, and are therefore allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

25 Examiner rejects Claim 22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benayoun and holds that Benayoun discloses claim 21.

30 Examiner acknowledges that Benayoun does not disclose expressly the computer-readable medium being reprogrammable. Examiner holds that at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have the controller/central chip of the USB wireless adapter (Fig. 4) be reprogrammable, and further that the suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been the majority of wireless adapter devices (e.g., network interface hubs, routers, transceivers, etc.) have reprogrammable chips since

updates are inevitable based on revisions/glitches/bugs that need to be fixed. Examiner argues that since the instructions are stored on chip, this chip must be reprogrammable to handle these situations. Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to utilize a reprogrammable chip in order to support future updates/revisions of the chip for any number of reasons.

5 Applicant concurs that the prior art includes the use of reprogrammable devices. Applicant further replies Benayoun teaches only of employing hubs, and therefore requiring the additional steps of multiplexing and demultiplexing signals, as well as the provision of multiplexing and demultiplexing circuitry, whereas in patentable, non-obvious and novel contrast, the method of the present invention enables a communications pathway that reformats
10 wireless signals that are in transit between two electronic devices, and that accomplishes this reformatting without multiplexing and demultiplexing, and wherein the reformatting is accomplished without need for accommodation by the designers of the devices to consider the communications protocols of both devices. Upward and downward communications compatibility between electronic devices may thereby be provided by the method of the present
15 invention and without the need of expensive and burdensome hub components.

Applicant refers to the arguments above regarding the patentable distinctions between the method of the present invention and Benayoun's requirement for a hub. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the independent that the dependent Claim 22 depends from the allowable independent Claims 22 and is therefore allowable.

20 Applicant respectfully submits that Examiner's Claim objections have been satisfied and Claim rejections have been traversed by the Claims as newly amended, and further that the Claims as currently amended are allowable.

If any matters can be resolved by telephone, Applicant requests that the Patent and Trademark Office call the Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

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